

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A machine for marking skins or other articles in sheet form by perforation, comprising:

- a support structure for m rows each formed from n vertical punches, m and n  
5 being whole numbers with  $m \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 2$ , the upper ends of said punches being inserted into holes of a corresponding plate elastically supported on said support structure, each lower end of said vertical punches of each row interacting with a corresponding wedge element of a plurality of n.m wedge elements, each wedge element being operable by an axial movement of a  
10 corresponding operating bar to position said punches between two end positions in which the punches remain fixed, in one of which a cutting edge of said punches is substantially at the level of an upper surface of said plate and in the other of which said cutting edge of said punches lies inside said hole, the distance between the two end positions of said cutting edge  
15 corresponding with the thickness of said operating bars for said wedges,  
- moving means for said bars,  
- a counterplate facing said plate and movable vertically towards and away from said plate to cause this latter to descend together with a skin retained between them towards said punches and obtain perforation by only those  
20 punches which have their cutting edge at the level of the upper surface of the plate and which have been positioned in an arrangement corresponding to an alphanumeric character in accordance with a predetermined code.